

# Fireworks & the 4th in Clark County



*Always Here, Always Ready!*



# 4th of July Realities

- Independence Day is huge throughout Clark County.
- Many people enjoy the multitude of activities that happen.
- This weekend is also very busy for First Responders.

# 4th of July Realities

- Injuries and fires will take priorities
- Other regular calls for service are still happening and need to be addressed such as:
  - Car Accidents
  - Medical Calls

# 4th of July Realities

- We understand there will be frustration.
- Dispatch & First Responders need to prioritize these calls first over noise & ordinance complaints

# 4th of July Realities

- Law Enforcement will be handling routine calls for service, and if extra time, higher level calls related to fireworks

# From CRESA

- July 3rd and 4th are the busiest days of the year for our 9-1-1 dispatch center.
- Our call volume triples on the 4th of July!

**Do NOT call 911 or 311 to  
report fireworks violations**

# From CRESA

- Our call volume triples on the 4th of July!
  - *\*\*NOTE - Average Daily incoming phone calls for 2021 - **1195 Calls***
    - Last Year - Fireworks Call Center - 1000
    - Last Year - 9-1-1 Calls for the Day - 2089
    - Total Calls for July 4, 2021 - **3089**

# From CRESA

- **Only Call 9-1-1 if:**
  - If you witness or see something on fire, or
  - If there is a medical or life threatening emergency



# From CRESA

- CRESA will be opening a Call Center again that weekend.
- To record a complaint related to 4th of July activities in Clark County, please call **(360) 597-7888**.
- *Remember fireworks are legal in many portions of Clark County.*

# What Can You Do?

- Talk to your neighbors first
- Prepare your household for the reality that people will use fireworks
- Remember fireworks are legal in many portions of Clark County.



# If you choose to use fireworks:

- Comply with local laws for when and where they can be used.
- Fireworks are illegal within the city limits of Vancouver. This is a complete ban that includes all types of fireworks.
  - *Civil fines start at \$500 for this violation.*

# If you choose to use fireworks:

- Check your address to find out the hours and rules for fireworks at your address.
  - <https://clark.wa.gov/code-administration/fireworks>
- Fireworks are not legal in any Clark County Parks.
- All school grounds, building rooftops, parking lots, playfields & athletic fields are also off limits



# If you choose to use fireworks:

- Use them safely outdoors, always with adult supervision.
- Clean up fireworks residue when you are done.
  - Sweep up debris and put used fireworks in a bucket of water overnight.
  - Remove them from the water and put them in a garbage bag and into your garbage can.
  - Dump the water onto grass, dirt or other landscape where it won't flow into a storm drain and into the river. Do not pour onto pavement, into the street or down a drain.

# Fireworks fire & injury facts

- Fireworks start annually over 19,000 fires and send over 9,100 people to the Emergency Room each year in the U.S. including:
  - 1,900 Structure Fires
  - 500 vehicle fires
  - 17,100 outside and other fires
- These fires caused:
  - Five deaths
  - 46 resident injuries,
  - And \$105 million in direct property damage.



# Fireworks fire & injury facts

- Children 10-14 had the highest rate of fireworks injury, with more than one-third (35%) of the victims of fireworks injuries under age 15.
- Sparklers accounted for 28% of fireworks related injuries seen in the month around July 4.

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# Questions?

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